

Appendix B
NOTICE OF PREPARATION RESPONSES

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NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP)

Appendix B includes a copy of the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the proposed Project, transcripts from the Public Scoping Hearings conducted on the NOP, copies of all comment letters received on the NOP during the public comment period, and an indication (Section, sub-Section and page number) where each individual comment is addressed in the Draft EIR. **Table B-1** lists all comments and shows the comment set identification number for each letter or commenter. Following Table B-1, each comment set is immediately followed by the location where each individual comment is addressed in the Draft EIR. Comment letters are presented chronologically followed by the transcripts from the Public Hearing, and errata and minor text clarifications. The comments from the Applicant, are presented at the end of the comment letters.

Table B-1. NOP Commenters and Comment Set Numbers

Agency /Affiliation	Name of Commenter	Date of Comment	NOP Comment Set
San Luis Obispo County Planning and Building	Murry Wilson	11/27/07	1
Commercial Fisherman	Brian Stacy	12/6/07	2
Commercial Fisherman	Brian Stacy	11/28/07	3



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

VICTOR HOLANDA, AICP
DIRECTOR

December 5, 2007

Scott McFarlin, Environmental Scientist
California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Avenue, Ste. 100-South
Sacramento, CA 95825

RE: NOP for AT&T Asia America Gateway Project (AAG) ; CSLC EIR No.: 745; CSLC Ref Files:
W26237, R31106

Dear Mr. McFarlin,

We have reviewed the NOP and project description for the above mentioned project and submit the following comments. The County of San Luis Obispo maintains land use and coastal permit authority for the portions of the project from the Mean High Tide Line landward to the AT&T 03 Station. As such, the County is a Responsible Agency for purposes of the preparation of the EIR for the project.

As we understand the project, the marine portion of the project involves installation of new facilities on (or under) the sea floor. The terrestrial portion of the project involves installation of fiber optic cable into an existing bore pipe at the marine landing site (Sandspit Parking Lot), and from that location inland to the AT&T 03 station in existing conduit. The landing bore pipe was constructed under a County Development Plan/Coastal Development Permit (D970257D). The conduit from that location to the AT&T 03 Station was constructed under County Development Plan/Coastal Development Permit (D900132D). The installation of cable into existing bore or conduit was considered when the County evaluated and permitted the previous projects. Mitigations were identified and conditions of approval were required based on those evaluations. Installation of cable at the landing and along the terrestrial project route, and all related activity, is subject to the conditions of approval associated with those approvals.

While the infrastructure exists for the terrestrial portion of the project, cable pulling operations will involve accessing the route with heavy equipment and will result in at least a general level of ground disturbance and vegetation clearing. The EIR should include a description of the activities necessary for the installation of the cable into the existing bore at the landing, and into the existing conduit to AT&T 03 Station. The EIR should evaluate these activities and discuss impacts associated with these activities. In the development of mitigation measures, the EIR should evaluate the existing pertinent conditions of approval to determine if they adequately reduce impacts to a level of insignificance. If necessary, the EIR should recommend additional measures and appropriate mechanism for implementation.

Specific issues that should be evaluated include:

- Air Quality – use of heavy equipment at the landing site and along the terrestrial route as well as off shore ship and equipment use will generate emissions that will affect the regional air basin and residents.

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- Agricultural Resources – access to portions of the terrestrial route will involve areas of active farming or ranching
- Biological Resources – access to the terrestrial route will involve vegetation removal, trimming or disturbance, possible stream crossings and general ground disturbance. Some portions of the route have experienced extensive vegetation growth and rare and or endangered species including Morro manzanita. In addition, Morro shoulderband snail, a federally endangered species, may be present along the route and could be impacted by cable installation activities.
- Geology & Soils – disturbance along the terrestrial route could result in erosion and sedimentation.
- Recreation – the landing site and portions of the terrestrial route are within Montana de Oro State Park. The installation of the cable at the landing and along these portions of the route could result in impacts and loss of coastal and trail access by recreational users.
- Water – disturbance along the terrestrial route and crossing of streams or wetlands has the potential to reduce surface water quality due to sedimentation.
- Land Use – installation of cable, including off-shore, should be evaluated per the San Luis Obispo County Local Coastal Plan, Coastal Zone Land Use Ordinance (Title 23) and Coastal Plan Policies.

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County staff is available to discuss previous project approvals, conditions and permit requirements. County staff contact regarding this project:

Steven McMasters
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Department of Planning & Building
County of San Luis Obispo
976 Osos St., Room 300
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
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And

Ellen Carroll
Environmental Coordinator
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County of San Luis Obispo
976 Osos St., Room 300
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elcarroll@co.slo.us

Sincerely,

ELLEN CARROLL
Environmental Coordinator

SPEAKER SLIP		
Public Hearing on Notice of Preparation of an EIR W26237 AT&T Asia America Gateway Project San Luis Obispo, November 27, 2007		
Name:	MURRAY WILSON	
Affiliation:	SLO - COUNTY PLANNING & BUILDING	
Mailing Address:	976 DSOB ST. Room 300	
	Street or PO Box	Suite No.
	SLO	CA
	City	State
		93401
		Zip
Phone No.:	(805) 805 788-2352	
Optional	Area Code	
Do you wish to be placed on the mailing list for this project? <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO		
If you do not wish to speak, you may provide written comments on the back of this card.		

COMMENTS:

- A) Department of Fish & Game recently established marine closure areas in the vicinity of the proposed project (between Morro Bay and Point Buchon). Where is this project in relation to the marine closure areas? 2) Will this project impact these closure areas which were specifically established to allow regeneration of local fisheries? 3) Will the project avoid these areas? (Direct and indirect impacts).
- B) Please address all coastal policies and coastal zone land use ordinance requirements established in the Certified Local Coastal Plan for the County of San Luis Obispo.

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